

were 16, yet differing in size. The rest were very small, to the number of 22. The bladder being display'd, we found not a drop of Urin in it, but it had already made, on the side of the orifice of the bladder, an opening of a considerable bigness ; upon which, death necessarily ensued. In the Kidneys and Ureters there could not be found the least grain or mark of sand.

*An Extract of a Letter, written by Monsieur Denys Novemb.
17. last from Paris, concerning an odd fetus lately born there ;
Englisht out of French.*

S I R,

A Few days since, I was called to a sick woman, brought to bed that very day I went to see her. After I had prescribed the physick I judged necessary for the mother, I asked for the child, which died, I heard, as soon as 'twas born. The Body of it appeared outwardly very well form'd and very fat ; but the head was so deform'd, that it frighted all that were present. It had no front ; the two eyes were on the top of the face, very big, and almost without an orbite to lodge them in. The upper and hind-part of the Head was red like coagulated blood, and resembled the bottom of a Calves-head when cut and sever'd from the Vertebra's of the neck. I had the curiosity to examine this red flesh, and I found under it a Bone, that was not a hollow skul, but a solid bone in the form of a small oyster. I had it opened every way ; but I found no hollowness nor brains in it. This bone was only fast'd before to the bones of the face, and not behind to the vertebra's of the neck ; so that the marrow of the back-bone had no communication with the head. I pursued the Optic nerves, and lost them in this bone, which was in lieu of the *cranium*, and was not at all spungy, but very hard. It seems to me somewhat extraordinary, that a child should be able to live nine months without brains ; for I was inform'd, that it was very lively and brisk in the mothers belly, but died as soon as it came into the Air.